

Application Serial No.: 09/684,965
Reply to Office Action dated May 18, 2006

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8, 10-20, 22-32, 34-40, 42-45, 47-50, 54-56, 58-60, 62-64, 66-68, 70-72, and 74-76 are presently active in this case, Claims 1, 13, 25-32, 37, 42, and 47 having been amended by way of the present Amendment. Claims 9, 21, 33, 41, 46, 51-53, 57, 61, 65, 69, and 73 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Care has been taken such that no new matter has been entered. (See, e.g., page 8, lines 10-18, of the application.)

At the outset, the Applicants note that the copy of the Information Disclosure Statement Form PTO-1449 filed on April 3, 2006, included one Foreign Patent Document that was not initialed. Accordingly, the Applicants request that the reference WO 00/39678 listed on Form PTO-1449 filed on April 3, 2006, be initialed as being received and considered, and a copy of the initialed Form be provided to the Applicants in the next Official Action.

Claim 25 was objected to for minor informalities. Claim 25 has been amended to remove the second period at the end of the claim, and has been amended to change the second occurrence of “comprising” to “including.” Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the claim objections.

Claim 32 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, , second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. More specifically, Claim 32 was rejected based on the recitation of “an eight computer code device,” “a ninth computer code device,” and “a tenth computer

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“code device” as not having antecedent basis, specifically referring to recitations in Claim 29. The Applicants note that Claim 32 depends from Claim 25 and not from Claim 26. Further, the Applicants note that Claim 25 presently recites “a first computer code device” through “an eighth computer code device,” and that dependent Claim 32 properly recites “a ninth computer code device” through “an eleventh computer code device.” The recitations in Claim 32, in and of themselves, provide proper antecedent basis for the terms used therein by using “an” or “a,” and do not conflict with the recitations in the claim from which they depend. The fact that various claims recite different embodiments that utilize the same numerical indicator does not render the claims unclear or indefinite, as the claims can be clearly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art by merely noting the various dependencies of the claims and noting that the numerical indicators are in proper numerical order from the independent claims to the various dependencies. Thus, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejections.

Claims 1-8, 10-20, 22-32, 34-40, 42-45, 47-50, 54-56, 58-60, 62-64, 66-68, 70-72, and 74-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Delano (U.S. Patent No. 6,430,558) in view of Busey et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,377,944) and further in view of Kalpio et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,343,323). For the reasons discussed below, the Applicants request the withdrawal of the obviousness rejection.

The basic requirements for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness as set forth in MPEP 2143 include (1) there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings, (2) there must be a reasonable

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expectation of success, and (3) the reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. The Applicant submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be established in the present case because the references, either when taken singularly or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.

Claims 1 and 37 each recite, among other features, selecting an application service provider from a plurality of application service providers, and formatting the document from the application service provider into a standardized format regardless of which application service provider of the plurality of application service provides is selected. Claims 13 and 42 each recite, among other features, means for selecting an application service provider from a plurality of application service providers, and means for formatting the document from the application service provider into a standardized format regardless of which application service provider of the plurality of application service provides is selected.

Claims 25 and 47 each recite, among other features, a third computer code device configured to select an application service provider from a plurality of application service providers, and a sixth computer code configured to format the document from the application service provider into a standardized format regardless of which application service provider of the plurality of application service provides is selected. The cited references, either when taken singularly or in combination, fail to disclose such standardized formatting of documents received from various application service providers.

The present invention provides for standardized formatting of the document that is received from one of plurality of application service providers so that a user can access documents of various original formats from various application service provides, and view

the standardized format using a single graphical user interface.

The Applicants submit that the cited references fail to disclose or even the standardized formatting recited in independent Claims 1, 13, 25, 37, 42, and 47. The Official Action cites the Delano reference for the teaching of the formatting of the document (specifically with respect to dependent Claims 8, 20, and 32). However, the cited portion of the Delano reference (column 2, line 63, through column 3, line 39, and column 5, line 55, through column 6, line 25) do not discuss the formatting of the document. The Delano reference does not disclose or even mention formatting of the document, nor does it disclose formatting the document into a standardized format.

The Busey et al. reference and the Kalpio et al. reference fail to supplement the above deficiency in the Delano reference. The Busey et al. reference makes mention of the format the query to the database or search engine, and formatting of raw information by a CIS/Agent, but fails to disclose or even mention formatting of the document provided to the user, nor does it disclose formatting the document into a standardized format. Furthermore, the Kalpio et al. reference does not discuss formatting of the document, or the formatting the document into a standardized format.

Since the Delano reference, the Busey et al. reference, and the Kalpio et al. reference, either when taken singularly or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the limitations recited in independent Claims 1, 13, 25, 37, 42, and 47, the Applicants submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be established with respect to these claims. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the obviousness rejections of Claims 1, 13, 25, 37, 42, and 47.

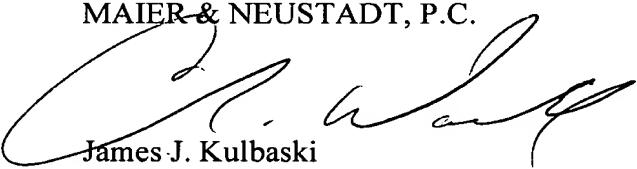
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The dependent claims are considered allowable for the reasons advanced for the independent claims from which they depend. These claims are further considered allowable as they recite other features of the invention that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the applied references when those features are considered within the context of their respective independent claims.

Consequently, in view of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski
Registration No. 34,648
Attorney of Record

Christopher D. Ward
Registration No. 41,367

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000
Fax. (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 10/01)

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